AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-45. **Cancelled.**

46. **(Currently Amended)** A cationic vinyl addition polymer comprising in polymerized form

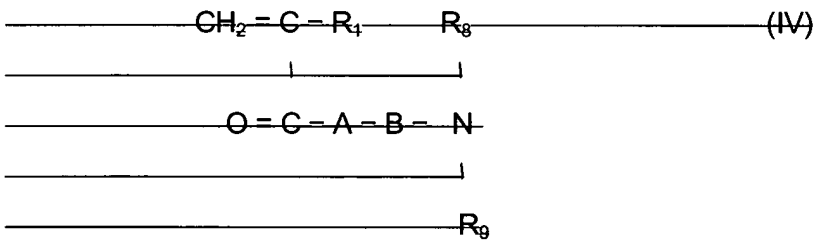
(a) at least one non-ionic monomer having a non-aromatic hydrophobic monomer;

(b) at least one cationic monomer; and

(c) (meth)acrylamide;

wherein the cationic vinyl addition polymer is prepared from a monomer mixture comprising from 75 to 95 mole% of (meth)acrylamide;

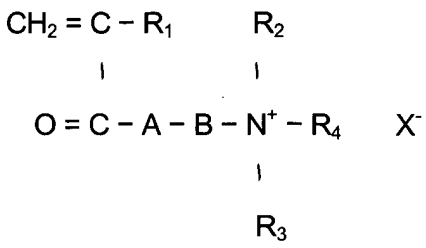
(a) said at least one non-ionic monomer having a non-aromatic hydrophobic group ~~comprising a monomer represented by the general formula (IV)~~



~~wherein R_1 is H or CH_3; A and B represent a single bond between C and N (O=C-NR_8R_9); R_8 and R_9 are each an alkyl group being n-propyl or iso-propyl~~ comprises an acrylamide-based monomer selected from the group consisting of N-n-propyl (meth)acrylamide and N-isopropyl (meth)acrylamide;

(b) said at least one cationic monomer ~~comprising~~ comprises a cationic monomer selected from the group consisting of:

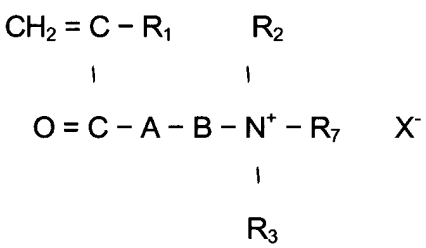
(i) cationic monomers represented by the general formula (I):



(I)

wherein R_1 is H or CH_3; R_2 and R_3 are each H or an alkyl group having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms; A is O or NH; B is an alkylene group of from 2 to 4 carbon atoms or a hydroxy propylene group; R_4 is a non-aromatic hydrocarbon group containing from 4 to 8 carbon atoms; and X^- is an anionic counterion;

(ii) cationic monomers represented by the general formula (III):



(III)

wherein R_1 is H or CH_3; R_2 and R_3 are each H or an alkyl group having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms; A is O or NH; B is an alkylene group of from 2 to 4 carbon atoms, or a hydroxy propylene group; R_7 is H, an alkyl group having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms, a benzyl group or a phenylethyl group; and X^- is an anionic counterion;

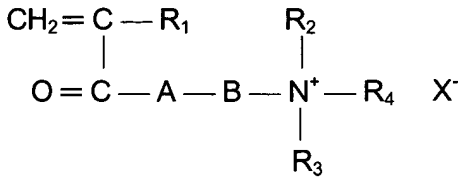
(iii) and mixtures thereof.

47. **(Original)** The cationic vinyl addition polymer of claim 46, wherein the (meth)acrylamide is acrylamide.

48-52. **Cancelled.**

53. **(Original)** The cationic vinyl addition polymer of claim 46, wherein the cationic vinyl addition polymer comprises in polymerized form a cationic monomer represented by the general formula (I):

(I)



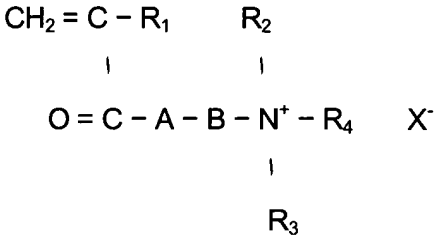
wherein R_1 is H or CH_3; R_2 and R_3 are each H or an alkyl group having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms; A is O or NH; B is an alkylene group of from 2 to 4 carbon atoms or a hydroxy propylene group; R_4 is a non-aromatic hydrocarbon group containing from 4 to 8 carbon atoms; and X^- is an anionic counterion.

54. **Cancelled.**

55. **(Previously Presented)** The cationic vinyl addition polymer of claim 46, wherein the cationic vinyl addition polymer is prepared from a monomer mixture comprising from 5 to 25 mole% of non-ionic monomer having a non-aromatic hydrophobic group, and from 95 to 75 mole% of at least one cationic monomer and (meth)acrylamide.

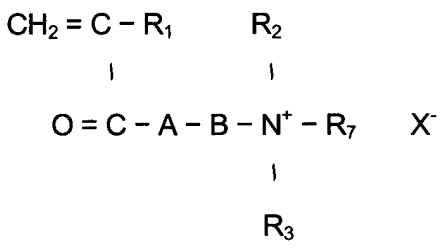
56. **(Previously Presented)** The cationic vinyl addition polymer of claim 46, wherein the cationic vinyl addition polymer comprises in polymerized form a cationic monomer represented by the general formula (I):

(I)



wherein R_1 is H or CH_3; R_2 and R_3 are each H or an alkyl group having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms; A is O or NH; B is a hydroxy propylene group; R_4 is a non-aromatic hydrocarbon group containing from 4 to 8 carbon atoms; and X^- is an anionic counterion.

57. **(Previously Presented)** The cationic vinyl addition polymer of claim 46, wherein the cationic vinyl addition polymer comprises in polymerized form a cationic monomer represented by the general formula (III):



(III)

wherein R_1 is H or CH_3; R_2 and R_3 are each H or an alkyl group having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms; A is O or NH; B is a hydroxy propylene group; R_7 is H, an alkyl group having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms, a benzyl group or a phenylethyl group; and X^- is an anionic counterion.